

**REMARKS**

Claims 2-14, 16 and 18 are pending in this application. Claims 2-14 stand rejected and claim 18 is objected to. Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in claim 18. By this Amendment, claims 2-11, 13, 14, 16, and 18 have been amended and claims 1, 15, and 17 have been canceled without prejudice. The amendments made to the claims do not alter the scope of these claims, nor have these amendments been made to define over the prior art. Rather, the amendments to the claims have been made for cosmetic reasons to improve the form thereof. In light of the amendments and remarks set forth below, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the pending claims is in immediate condition for allowance.

The specification has been objected to for failing to provide antecedent basis for the irrational relation required by claims 1, 2, and 13. Applicants have amended claim 2. Therefore, this objection has been rendered moot. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection.

Claim 18 is objected to for the word "contact" being hyphenated. Applicants have amended claim 18 in view of the Examiner's comments. Therefore, withdrawal of the objection is requested.

Claim 17 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicants have canceled claim 17 rendering this rejection moot.

With respect to the pending rejections, Applicants note that claim 18 has been indicated as being allowable. Applicants have amended claim 13 to correspond with allowed claim 18. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 13 is in immediate condition for allowance.

Claim 2 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,708,801 ("Williams") in view U.S. Patent No. 6,263,390 ("Alasti"),

further in view of EP 0217486 ("Rasmus Nordby"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Among the limitations of dependent claim 2 not present in the cited reference is a first of said external connection devices being connected to said clock connection of said peripheral unit and the second of said external connection devices being connected to said clock connection, of said central processing unit so that the peripheral unit receives a second clock which is independent of the first clock.

Williams fails to disclose the above-recited limitation. Williams teaches said processing unit (13), said peripheral unit (14), said synchronization means (16) and said data bus (bus between 13 and 16) are arranged on a common chip (15 is a chip) having two external connection devices being arranged to be connectible to two corresponding contact connections of a terminal (bus 11 and clock generator 12 are connected to the chip). Williams discloses increasing the degree of adjustability of clock ratios between a bus clock and a chip clock. Specifically, Williams teaches that it may be favorable to clock different units within a chip card with different clocks, all of which being derived from a common clock signal. The common clock is provided via a common clock signal or a common signal external connection device. Thus, Williams fails to disclose the two independent clock signals.

Applicants note that Alasti and Rasmus Nordby also fail to disclose the two independent clock signals. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 2 is patentable over the cited references.

Applicants have responded to all of the rejections and objections recited in the Office Action. Reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance for all of the pending claims are therefore respectfully requested.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is

respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

If the Examiner believes an interview would be of assistance, the Examiner is welcome to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Dated: September 7, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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